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Honey Lake Potential Public Access Opportunities

1.) Northwest Corner Access

Potential Recreational Uses:

- Hiking along shoreline
- Occasional canoeing, kayaking, and sailing during times when the lake has an adequate volume of water
- Historic resource interpretation of the Amedee ferry and dock.

Advantages:

- Public access to lake would be from 11-acre Bureau of Land Management (BLM) parcel
- Located on a portion of lake that is easy to approach and is closest to Susanville
- The most advantageous for water sports due to the greater water depth when the lake is full and more favorable wind conditions
- Provides shoreline hiking opportunities
- Is one of the most scenic portions of the lakeshore.

Disadvantages:

- Public access easement has not been established
- Shoreline edge is highly variable due to lake depth fluctuations and periodic dry-up, making access for water sports periodic and unreliable
- May attract off-season hunters
- Concern regarding visitor trespass onto private land
- Possible conflict with adjacent hunting clubs
- May attract potentially incompatible users, including unmanaged Off Road Vehicles enthusiasts.

2.) Amedee Access

Potential Recreational Uses:

- Duck hunting
- Fishing near the mouth of the Susan River
- Hiking along shoreline
- Occasional canoeing, kayaking, and sailing during times when the lake has an adequate volume of water

Advantages:

- Public access to lake would be via public land, as BLM owns a 2 mile strip of land connecting to shoreline
- Water remains in northeastern corner of the lake longer than in any other
- Wetland restoration opportunities are present at nearby Amedee Springs.

Disadvantages:

- High densities of Carson Wandering Skipper (CWS) butterfly and nectar sources are present
- Onshore winds, shallow lake depths, and an arid climate and topography make this a less desirable location for recreation, including water sports
- Access is most remote of all options and would likely be little used, except by hunters and occasional fishermen
- Lack of scenic quality
- Existing access to ordnance and explosives area not cleaned by the Army
- May attract potentially incompatible users, including unmanaged Off Road Vehicles enthusiasts.

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3.) Pole Line Road/Herlong Access

Potential Recreational Use:

- Hiking along shoreline
- Occasional canoeing, kayaking, and sailing during times when the lake has an adequate volume of water

Advantages:

- Existing access that would require fewer improvements than other options
- Only existing vehicular/administrative access to lakeshore
- Potential access to entire lakebed, sites of existing and potential wetlands enhancement.

Disadvantages:

- High densities of CWS and nectar sources have been observed north of this access point
- Not likely to be used much due to its remoteness, relative lack of both water and scenic quality
- Arid conditions
- This arm of the lake dries up sooner than most other portions of the lake, reducing its potential value for recreational access and use.
- Existing access to ordnance and explosives area not cleaned by the Army
- May attract potentially incompatible users, including unmanaged Off Road Vehicles enthusiasts.

4.) Long Valley Creek Mouth Access

Potential Recreational Uses:

- Fishing
- Hiking along shoreline
- Occasional canoeing, kayaking, and sailing during times when the lake has an adequate volume of water

Advantages:

- Offers fishing (for catfish) access to lake
- Honey Lake shoreline extends well into mouth of creek, potentially providing adequate public land footprint as an access staging area.

Disadvantages:

- No current public access easement to lakeshore
- Distance to lake across private land is 2 to 3 miles, depending on how access is accomplished
- Represents relatively remote access point
- Access would likely be little used except by fishermen during brief window during rainy season
- This portion of lake dries up sooner than many others, reducing its value as an access point.
- May attract potentially incompatible users, including unmanaged Off Road Vehicles enthusiasts.



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5.) Western Shoreline

Potential Recreational Uses:

- Hiking along shoreline
- Occasional canoeing, kayaking, and sailing during times when the lake has an adequate volume of water

Advantages:

- Potential staging area and access to shoreline would be through an existing BLM parcel
- No CWS populations have been observed in vicinity of access

Disadvantages:

- Public access easement from I-395 to BLM parcel would have to be negotiated through private land
- Concern regarding visitor trespass on private land
- Limited recreational potential
- May attract potentially incompatible users, including unmanaged Off Road Vehicles enthusiasts.

6.) Western Shoreline

Potential Recreational Uses:

- Hiking along shoreline
- Occasional canoeing, kayaking, and sailing during times when the lake has an adequate volume of water

Advantages:

- Public access to lake would be from existing 13-acre BLM parcel over private land
- Administrative easement from Interstate-395 to parcel
- Located on portion of the lake that is easy to approach from highway
- No CWS populations have been observed in vicinity of access
- The site's riparian and wetland features have scenic and biological interpretive value.

Disadvantages:

- Conversion of administrative access to public access easement would need to be negotiated
- Concern regarding visitor trespass onto private land
- Limited recreational potential
- May attract potentially incompatible users, including unmanaged Off Road Vehicles enthusiasts.



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